

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2049
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
DISTRIBUTION OF LANDLINE AND MOBILE CARDS
Gudhe Shri Anantrao;Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the private telephone companies are surpassing Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in distributing land line and mobile cards;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by BSNL to compete with the private companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

- (a) Yes, Sir. Some private telephone companies are surpassing Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited in distribution of landline and mobile phones.
- (b) The market share of BSNL as on 30.6.2007 is given below:

Market Share of BSNL (%)

Land Line 82.07%
WLL (Fixed) 39.84%
Mobile 16.27%

- (c) Following steps have taken by BSNL to compete with the private operators.

In urban areas:

- i) Introduction of broadband.
- ii) Computerization of fault repair service and introduction of Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) based fault booking and clearance system.
- iii) Creation of poleless network to reduce fault rate.
- iv) Replacement of Under Ground paper core cable.
- v) Introduction of small telephone exchange i.e. Digital Line Concentrator (DLC) near the customer's premises.
- vi) Introduction of value added services in its mobile network.
- vii) Introduction of 3G technology on Global System for Mobile (GSM) to offer high speed data services.

In rural areas:

- i) Deployment of additional Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) BTS in Short Distance Charging Area (SDCAs) to increase coverage and thereby meet demand of telephone connections in rural, tribal and remote areas.
- ii) Provision of battery charger of Fixed Wireless Terminal (FWT) to operate in the voltage range of 90-300V.
- iii) Provision of high capacity external maintenance free battery with (FWT) for providing larger talk time and standby time.
- iv) BSNL is deploying its mobile network to cover gaps in existing coverage and additional requirement based on customer base besides covering villages with population 5000 and above. In now planned expansions, BSNL plans to cover villages with population 1000 and above.